



The

Swansea Report

Volume 30, Number 2

Website: Swanseail.org

February 2015

Municipal Directory

Web Site: www.swanseail.org

Admin E-mail:

swanadmn@swanseail.org

Police Department

Non-Emergency - 233-8114

Email: swanseap@swanseail.org

Fire Department

Non-Emergency - 233-0456

Engine House: 234-3291

Building & Zoning: 355-0280

E-mail: swanbnz@swanseail.org

All Other Departments

General access number

234-0044

Mayor's Office, Village Clerk,
Administration, Utility Billing,
& Public Works

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday - Friday

BUILDING LOCATIONS

Police Department,
Government Center

& Building and Zoning

1400 N. Illinois Street

Fire House # 1, 1350 N. Illinois St.

Fire House # 2, 144 Huntwood Rd.

Street Garage, 215 Service St.

Wastewater Plant, 209 Service St.

Trash Service Delays

President's Day is not an observed holiday. There will be no delay in your service.



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Swansea Chamber Hosts Candidates' Forum



Swansea residents fill the Thompson Center for the 2013 Swansea Candidates' Forum hosted by the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber of Commerce will host a Candidates' Forum event on March 12th at the Thompson Civic Center. The Forum will give residents and local business owners the opportunity to learn more about the candidates' qualifications and what they plan to do to make Swansea a better place to live and work, if elected.

This year's election will have three Board of Trustee positions available that are four year terms. Current Trustees, Susan O'Malley, Susan Schultz and Ron Sutterfield, terms will end and all three have chosen not to run for re-election.

Candidates running for the Board of Trustee positions are; John Sambo, Doris Rebenstorff, Bill Phillips, Stephen Pulley, Marilyn Neumeyer and Brian McGuire. You may pick up to three of these candidates on election day, April 7th.

Swansea Candidates' Forum

Thursday, March 12th

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Thompson Civic Center

1501 Caseyville Avenue, Swansea

For more info contact the Metro-East Regional Chamber of Commerce
233-3938 - chamber@MetroEastChamber.org



The Village of Swansea Non-Emergency Services
will be closed on:

Monday, February 16, 2015

in observance of President's Day

In Your Corner

A word from your Trustee

Dear Swansea Neighbors,

With 2014 having passed and moving headway into a new year... it's great to reflect back and look at the progress our Village has made in creating a better community for Village families and businesses. We've made significant advances financially, in planning for our future, and in day-to-day living. And it's great to see as well that the Village Board isn't alone in working hard to make Swansea a better community. Swansea residents such as Marilyn Neumeyer, who led the Swansea Santa House project, and Doris Rebenstorff, who led the Swansea Family Christmas Program, worked numerous hours in effort to bring joy and comfort to fellow members of our community. Often, although these programs are generally discussed primarily in the holiday season, there is work going on all year in order to make these programs a success. It's the selfless giving and sharing and looking out for each other that really makes us a community, and not simply a group of people residing in the same Village. Thank you Marilyn and Doris for all your hard work. It's deeply appreciated by so many.

As you're all aware the Consolidated Election is upcoming on April 7, 2015. Please mark your calendars and be sure to vote! Unfortunately, some folks may not think that the Consolidated Election is all that important and may not make voting a priority. In the 2013 Consolidated Election, only 18.59% of registered Swansea voters voted. However, the local government is incredibly important, as it has implications for so many important aspects of our lives, such as our roads, schools, real estate, water supply, waste and sewage, and public safety. Please remember that local government has an enormous impact on our everyday lives, on services that we have the most contact with, and your vote is tremendously important. For more information with regard to the candidates running in the Consolidate Election, please bring your questions for the candidates and attend the Candidates Forum hosted by Chamber of Commerce at the Thompson Civic Center on Thursday, March 12, 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

Last, but certainly not least, thanks to all who have been contacting the Village with comments and suggestions for how we can continue to improve our Village. Keep the communications coming, and we'll continue to work together, to ensure that our community continues to be a great place to work and live for us and our families.

Warmest regards,

Kel Ruoco

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042012-00368AC

Swansea Rotary Club Announcing our New Meeting Location

1001 North Belt West
Swansea, IL 62226

Come Visit Us!

Meeting every
Thursday



Swansea Fire Department Winter BBQ

Sunday, February 22nd

Engine House #1
1350 North Illinois Street

Ribs, ½ Chicken, Pork Steaks, Side Orders

11:00 a.m. - ? Carry Out Only

Ladies Auxiliary Bake Sale

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**Swansea Welcomes
Three New Police Officers**

In September 2014, Swansea Police welcomed three new members to the Department. Since September, the new hires have been attending the Police Academy.

At the meetings held on January 5, 2015, Officers Breanna Kemper-Damm, Nicholas Vanwaes, and Daniel Voelker were sworn in by Mayor Ken Mueller.

The Village of Swansea would like to welcome and congratulate the Officers.

**The Swansea Patriots
(Growing Our Parks)**

Upcoming event: We are hosting a “Spring into the Parks” 5K run/walk at Schranz Park April 24, 2015 7pm rain or shine. Entry forms are available at the Village, and on our website. www.swanseapatriots.org

Watch for more information in the March Swansea Report. As always you may contact us at swanseapatriots@gmail.com, and on our Facebook page ‘Swansea Patriots’.

Please support our Sponsors listed on our webpage!



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Swansea, IL 62226

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A Thank You from Santa

Boys and Girls -

Thank you for coming to see me at Mel Price Park Santa House. I loved seeing each and every one of you. My goodness, I had visits from over 300 children. I hope you enjoyed the gifts you got when you came to see me. The pictures with each of you were great. Santa's helpers were wonderful. I really appreciate their help. Be good. Listen to your parents. See you in December, 2015.

The Elimination of Burning Landscape Waste

Due to the increased feedback from Village residents, the Board of Trustees is taking under consideration the amendment of the current Ordinance 1171, Section 13-223 - limitations on burning landscape waste. Under the proposed ordinance, it will be unlawful for any person, business firm or corporation to burn, within the village corporate limits, all accumulations of grass or shrubbery cuttings, leaves, tree limbs and any other materials accumulated as the result of the care of lawns, shrubbery, vines and trees. Any person who violates the provisions of the new ordinance will be subject to fines ranging from \$150-\$500. **The proposed ordinance will be effective May 1, 2015.** If you would like to see a copy of the proposed ordinance or have any questions, please contact the Village Officials at Swanseaoofficials@swanseail.org.

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SATURDAY
the 28th
of
FEBRUARY

Doors open at 4:30 pm at the CKL of I in Swansea
Buffet Dinner at 5pm with Silent, Oral Auction
Items, & Raffles All Evening. Act 1 Starts at 6:30pm

TABLES OF EIGHT AVAILABLE \$40 PER PERSON
Proceeds go toward Swansea Food Pantry, High Mount / Wolf Branch Student of the
Month, selected local charities, Belize Children's Program and Polio Eradication

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For ticket information or questions contact:
Stephanie 618.420.5924 swalter@memhosp.com



Mel Price Park Ball Diamond Reservations



Application forms for baseball field assignments for the 2015 baseball season may be picked up from and returned to the Swansea Government Center by March 3, 2015.

Applications received after this date will only be considered if an opening is available. Field assignments will be made upon receipt of applications. There is a usage fee for the lights on the large diamond. Please call the Village of



Baseball, Softball, and Rookie Ball

Umpires needed!

Register online at www.bellevillekhoury.org

bkinfo@khouryleague.org Open House Registration Dates:
 (618) 277-5576 Saturday, January 31st, 9AM-1PM
 411 West Monroe Wednesday, February 11th, 6PM-9PM
 Belleville, IL Wednesday, February 25th, 6PM-9PM

Look for upcoming competition dates for the Belleville East Marching Band.



Thank you for your support!

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Leaf Burning and Yard Waste Pick Up Has Ended



Leaf burning ended on
Saturday, Nov. 29th

Yard Waste pick up ended on
Wednesday, Dec. 31st

(Pick up will resume on Wednesday, April 1st, 2015 for customers that have signed up.)

Swansea Improvement Association

Hall For Rent

Weddings
Anniversaries
Meetings
Accomodate up to 300 people



Fish Fry Every Friday.
Chicken Special Every
Saturday 11 am to 8 pm.

277-6331

216 Service Street
Swansea, Illinois

Swansea Fire Department

Monthly Fire Responses
December 2014

For the month of December, the Swansea Fire Department responded to 35 calls. Below is a list of the type & amount of calls the Swansea Fire Department responded to.

Structure Fire(s) - 7
False Alarms - 4

Carbon Monoxide Alarms - 5
Other Incidents - 19 total
Responses - 35
Total for 2014 - 401

Child Safety Seats Installed
December - 10
Total for 2014 - 109



Late Fee Assessed RENTAL PROPERTY ORDINANCE

Landlord registrations not received before January 31, 2015 will be charged a \$25.00 late fee. All landlords are required to register their rental properties. The registration form is available at the Government Center, 1400 N. Illinois St., or for download on the Village's website, www.swanseail.org.

If you have any questions, contact the Village Building Department office at 234-0044.

Swansea Police Department



During the month of December 2014, the Swansea Police Department responded to 1049 calls for service.

- 167 Traffic stops yielded
- 101 Verbal warnings
- 158 Traffic citation issued.
- 41 Traffic accidents
- 19 Misdemeanor arrests
- 3 Felony arrests
- 2 Warrant arrests
- 2 D.U.I. Arrest
- 0 Ordinance Violation

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Village of Swansea Officials

President:

Ken Mueller
mayor@swanseail.org

Clerk:

Lauren O'Neill
loneill@swanseail.org

Trustees:

Matt Lanter
mlanter@swanseail.org
Susan O'Malley
somalley@swanseail.org
Katherine Ruocco
kruocco@swanseail.org
Susan Schultz
sschultz@swanseail.org
Ronald Sutterfield
rsutterfield@swanseail.org
Brian Wells
bwells@swanseail.org

Treasurer:

Michael W. Leopold
mleopold@swanseail.org

Group Email

Address:
swanseaoofficials@
swanseail.org

February Calendar

2 Municipal Committee Meetings
Government Center - 6:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees Meeting
Government Center - 7:00 p.m.
or upon conclusion of the committee meetings.

11 Chamber of Commerce
Board of Director's Meeting
Fairview Hts. VFW - 11:00 a.m.

12 Fire Dept. Auxiliary Meeting
Fire Station - 7:00 p.m.

14 Park Board Meeting
Norman Lehr Community Center - 7:00 a.m.

16 Presidents' Day Observed
Village Non-Emergency Offices Closed

17 Tuesday - Municipal Committee Meetings
Government Center - 6:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees Meeting
Government Center - 7:00 p.m.
or upon conclusion of the committee meetings.

Planning and Zoning Board Meeting: As needed, second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m., at the Government Center. Please contact Building and Zoning to verify if a meeting is to be held.
Swansea Patriots: Second Saturday, approximately 8:00 a.m. at the Norman Lehr Community Center, after the Park Board meeting.

Rotary Club: Each Thursday, 7:00 a.m. at 1001 North Belt West, Swansea, IL.

Lion's Club: Second and Fourth Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at Crehan's, N. Belt West, call Jim Beimfohr at 234-7145 for more information.

Youth Government Council: First Monday of every month at 4:00 p.m.



The Swansea Report is published monthly by the Village of Swansea, 1400 N. Illinois Street, Swansea, Illinois, as a community service to our residents and businesses. The school information contained within this publication is published as a community service, and does not reflect the opinions of the Village of Swansea. Copyright by the Village of Swansea, Illinois. Reproduction, or the use, in any manner and without permission, of the text or graphical content of this publication is prohibited. Mailed free to all addresses within Swansea. For information on advertising or news stories, call 234-0044 Monday - Friday, 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.



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INSTEAD OF BURNING, CONSIDER THESE ALTERNATIVES:

Residents can sign up for yard waste collection for \$9.49 per month. There is no need to bag the yard waste, just put it in a trash can by your curb (please put a LARGE RED X on your yard waste can) and they will pick it up on Wednesdays. There is a three month minimum sign-up commitment and Republic Services will bill you on a quarterly basis. The service will continue automatically, but if you no longer need yard waste removal, just call to cancel. This service is available each year from April 1 thru December 31. This is an optional service, you will not be billed unless you call and request the service. Contact Republic Services' Customer Service 618-656-6883 to sign up for service or if you have any questions.

During the harsh months of winter, January, February and March, curbside pickup by Republic Services is halted. However, if you still have landscape waste, you may wish to take advantage of a drop-off site at St. Louis Composting, 5841 Mine Hall Rd. **Cost is \$1 for paper lawn bags or \$2 for plastic lawn bags** (plastic bags will need to be emptied and taken with the customer). Other options are available; please contact St. Louis Composting for details and additional pricing options.

Mulching – shred leaves while mowing and leave on your lawn. This alternative adds nutrients to the soil and helps prevent wind and water erosion.

Composting – produces organic soil fertilizer through decomposition

The Return to Camelot



Who will be there?

The Magical Excalibur? Sir Lancelot? Queen Guinevere? King Arthur? You?

The Swansea Patriots are bringing back one of the most successful fundraisers for our parks, the Camelot Dinner and Auction. Details are being made as we ride our way to **Saturday, October 10, 2015.**

A grand evening with over 200 of the Village's finest knights and ladies. Rather than pulling the sword from the stone, we might ask that you pull your wallet from your pocket.

For 30 years the Patriots and loyalists in Swansea have raised funds for the parks in our community.

Save the date and await more proclamations from the Patriots right here.

VILLAGE ELECTIONS

On April 7, 2015, the Consolidated Election will occur. There are three (3) Village of Swansea positions to be elected. The title for each of these positions is: "Village Trustee - four-year term." The Trustee office holders with expiring terms are Trustee Susan O'Malley, Ronald Sutterfield, and Susan Schultz. The salaries of the Trustee positions are presently \$7,200.00 per year.

Candidate documents must be filed with the Village Clerk at the Government Center at 1400 N. Illinois Street in order to be placed on the ballot. The dates and times for filing are as follows: December 15 – 19, 2014 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and on Monday, December 22 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.. In the case of simultaneous filings, a public lottery will be held on Monday, January 5, 2015 at 5:45 p.m. at the Swansea Government Center to determine ballot position.

The "State of Illinois Candidates Guide 2015" (Guide) has instructions and forms and may be read under "Top Documents" at: <http://www.elections.illinois.gov>. There will be one hard copy of the Guide available for review at the Swansea Government Center during normal hours. Some highlights include:

Preface: recommends all prospective candidates consult with competent legal counsel when preparing their nomination papers.

Page iii: Petitions for the April 7, 2015 Consolidated Election may NOT be circulated prior to September 23, 2014, for the filing period December 15 – 22, 2014.

Pages 10-20: lists the requirements for filing Nominating Papers including but not limited to the following: Statement of Candidacy (SBE P-1B independent or SBE P-1D new party); Receipt from St. Clair County for the filing of a Statement of Economic Interests (see page 19); Loyalty Oath (OPTIONAL, SBE P-1C); Petitions (SBE P-3 independent or SBE P-8 new party)

Page 23-27: lists qualifications, residency, petition signature requirements and form number information. Note: The independent candidate minimum number (94) and maximum number (149) of petition signatures is calculated using the 1862 Swansea votes in the 2013 Consolidated Election. See the St. Clair Abstract from the link below:

[http://www.countyclerk.co.st-clair.il.us/elections/electionResults/Documents/St Clair 2013-04-09 abstracts.pdf](http://www.countyclerk.co.st-clair.il.us/elections/electionResults/Documents/St%20Clair%202013-04-09%20abstracts.pdf)

Page 56: Frequently Asked Questions

Page 59: Full index of forms

Chamber Offers Scholarship



**METRO-EAST
REGIONAL**

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SWANSEA & FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS

The Metro-East Regional Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for the Dr. Bruce Adams annual scholarship. The Chamber will offer one \$1,000.00 scholarship to a graduating student of Belleville West High School, Belleville East High School, Althoff Catholic High School, or Governor French Academy who is also a resident of Swansea or Fairview Heights. Application deadline is April 1, 2015.

For more information & application form go to the chamber website www.MetroEastChamber.org or call 233-3938.

Coming Soon, New Swansea Website

The Village of Swansea is pleased to announce that we are in the process of building a new website for citizens and businesses to use in order to access information about Swansea. We anticipate the website will go live mid-February. The web address will remain www.swanseail.org. The current website was hacked in October and was taken down and there is no indication that any personal information was compromised. The new website will offer enhanced capabilities to promote important communication channels, provide timely updates on community events, and allow the Village to have an increased technology presence on the web to enhance our Economic Development activities. All of these objectives are to reach the goal of providing transparency about Swansea and how our municipality operates.

The new website will allow for the ease and increase of three major communication channels: government to citizen, citizen to government, and government to government. The major goal of these communication channels is to provide transparency in how the Village operates. Our new website will make accessing information about Swansea quicker and much easier. Some of the information that will be available on the website will include Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes, Village Ordinances, Fiscal Year Budgets, On-Line Sewer Bill Payment Options, Frequently Asked Questions, Common Forms, and most importantly, contact information for elected officials and Village staff. The Village will now have an interactive platform by which to communicate with citizens and allow citizen to communicate with the Village officials and staff.

The development of the website is based upon the needs of the users, which include both end user and the Village staff. The new website will have a Calendar of Events which will be updated by Village staff so that citizens may stay informed on upcoming events and news items. There will also be the capability for citizens to self-subscribe to alerts about events and news in the Village. The format of the website is based upon 'best practice' recommendation from CivicPlus. CivicPlus is a website company that understands the needs of municipalities and governmental websites, and for this reason they were selected as the company to develop and host our website.

With technology being such a large part of our lives today, there is reliance on websites for the purposes of access to information and allowing communication to occur with a click of mouse, or the touch of a screen. The new website will allow quick and easy access to information about the Village. This is an invaluable tool when marketing the many positive attributes about our community. Economic Development efforts will be enhanced with our stronger web presence.

We hope that you will visit our new website at www.swanseail.org and become more engaged in the functions and operations of the Village. The goal of the new website is to provide easy access to Village information, to increase communication opportunities between the Village and the community, and to provide an updated image for our Village. Thank you for your patience during this process. We look forward to hearing from you on how we can continue to improve our capabilities in serving the residents of Swansea. Please feel free to contact my office regarding the website, or any other issue.





Is Your Dog Missing ???

Contact the Swansea Police Dept. to see if the police have found your dog.

**Non-emergency number
233-8114**

Zumba Gold



Starting Tuesday, February 10th, Zumba Gold will be at the Moose Lodge at 2425 N. Illinois, Swansea, IL from 11am-12pm.

Instructor Sheri O'Donnell will lead you in this fun exercise. A suggested donation of \$4.00 to the St. Clair County Office of Aging will help off-set some of their cost.

For more information you can call:
Mary at 234-4410 ext. 7034



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High Mount School District # 116 February 2015

Dear Parents:

Unfortunately it is bad weather season and with bad weather comes an occasional school cancellation. If you are a parent of a current High Mount student and are not receiving a call for all-calls, please contact school. The information in the Blackboard Connect database may be wrong and may need to be updated.

Mr. Darin Loepker, Principal

PARENT POWER

Self-image plays a major role in a child's ability to learn, and children succeed when they believe they can. Consequently, failure is more likely when they do not believe in themselves. A parent's job is to encourage his/her child, according to the University of Delaware Extension Service. Parents need to act as cheerleaders for their children by praising their efforts, encouraging them to keep trying when classes are difficult and taking an active interest in their studies.

Mr. Darin Loepker, Principal (ext. 504)
dloepker@highmountschool.com
1721 Boul Avenue
Swansea, IL 62226
618-233-1054

Attendance Line: 233-1054 extension # 300

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Swansea Rotary Club Student of the Month Award for the month of September goes to:

*Ty'Air Eason, 8th grade, from High Mount School
&
Molly McCoy, 8th grade, from Wolf Branch School*

These Swansea students were recognized for their excellence in academics, civic and extracurricular activities.
Congratulations!



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